

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Kindly amend claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 13, 16 and 18 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of registering a domain name, comprising:
receiving from a registrant a request for registration of a native language domain name, said native language domain name including at least one non-alphanumeric character;

converting each of said at least one non-alphanumeric character to a corresponding alphanumeric character to produce ~~an~~ a converted alphanumeric domain name; and

registering said converted alphanumeric domain name with an authorized alphanumeric domain name registrar, said authorized alphanumeric domain name registrar being one of one or more registrars that maintain a database of domain names usable in the Internet so as to ensure that there are no duplicative domain name assignments.

2. (Original) The method of registering a domain name in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

reserving said native language domain name for an exclusive use by said registrant.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of registering a domain name in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

determining whether said converted alphanumeric domain name was already registered by another entity other than said registrant.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of registering a domain name in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

adding an entry in a domain name server database, said added entry defining unique correspondence relationship between said converted alphanumeric domain name and an Internet Protocol (IP) address of a web site of said registrant.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of registering a domain name in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

sending, upon registration of said converted alphanumeric domain name, to said registrant a confirmation message indicating completion of registration of said native language domain name.

6. (Original) The method of registering a domain name in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

each of said at least one non-alphanumeric character is converted to said corresponding alphanumeric character based on Unicode standard.

7. (Original) The method of registering a domain name in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said alphanumeric domain name has a fixed number of character width.

8. (Original) The method of registering a domain name in accordance with claim 7, wherein:

said fixed number of character width is sixty-four.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of establishing a communication link between a user computer and a destination website over a world wide web network, comprising:

receiving a universal resource locator of said destination website, said universal resource locator having a native language domain name that comprises at least one non-alphanumeric character;

converting each of said at least one non-alphanumeric character to a corresponding alphanumeric character to produce ~~an~~ a converted alphanumeric domain name, said converted alphanumeric domain name being pre-registered with an authorized registrar based on a request for registration of said native language domain name;

performing a domain name server inquiry using said converted alphanumeric domain name to obtain an Internet Protocol (IP) address of said destination website, said domain name server inquiry comprising querying a database of pre-registered

domain names usable in the Internet, said database being maintained so as to ensure there are no duplicative domain name assignments; and

establishing said communication link between said user computer and said destination website using said Internet Protocol (IP) address.

10. (Original) The method of establishing said communication link between said user computer and said destination website in accordance with claim 9, wherein:

each of said at least one non-alphanumeric character is converted to said corresponding alphanumeric character based on Unicode standard.

11. (Original) The method of establishing said communication link between said user computer and said destination website in accordance with claim 9, wherein:

said alphanumeric domain name has a fixed number of character width.

12. (Original) The method of establishing said communication link between said user computer and said destination website in accordance with claim 11, wherein:

said fixed number of character width is sixty-four.

13. (Currently Amended) A domain name registration system, comprising:
a native language domain name registrar configured to receive a request for registration of a native language domain name, said native language domain name including at least one non-alphanumeric character;

wherein said native language domain name registrar is configured to convert each of said at least one non-alphanumeric character to a corresponding alphanumeric character to produce ~~an~~ a converted alphanumeric domain name, and is further configured to register said converted alphanumeric domain name with an authorized alphanumeric domain name registrar, said authorized alphanumeric domain name registrar being one of one or more registrars that maintain a database of domain names usable in the Internet so as to ensure there are no duplicative domain name assignments.

14. (Original) The domain name registration system according to claim 13, further comprising:

a domain name server having a database, said database having a plurality of

entries defining unique correspondence relationships between a plurality of alphanumeric domain name and respective ones of a plurality of Internet Protocol (IP) addresses.

15. (Original) The domain name registration system according to claim 13, wherein:

said native language domain name registrar configured to convert each of said at least one non-alphanumeric character to said corresponding alphanumeric character in accordance with Unicode standard.

16. (Currently Amended) The domain name registration system according to claim 13, wherein:

said converted alphanumeric domain name has a fixed number of character width.

17. (Original) The domain name registration system according to claim 16, wherein:

said fixed number of character width is sixty-four.

18. (Currently Amended) The domain name registration system according to claim 13, wherein said converted alphanumeric domain name comprising:

at least one language code character.